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if she command me stay, I stay: If go L straight-may go. If she decree that night is day, I swear that it

Prowns site, my heart sinks in my breast; smiles site, I fain would direct. And whether slides be fair or dark depends upon

her grane.—
And then hade may neglect me quite, seem other awain to bless.
With her delightsome company, in feigned un-

Of my discomiture, small blaze finds her per For I'll contess that she has made an April fool of me.

fan if- tie rarely—I rebet, and west tie more I'll Twee April moods this April maid so oft ---

with April tears,

And then—and then—(what lover, pre- relent

less could remain!»
Limpel for puriou, and take up the cap and

bells again, Content if near her I may live winste'er she wills to be.
For I'll conless that she has made an April fool

of the contress that age has made an April 100 of me.

-Marguret Eytings, in Detroit Free Press.



small of his joke?" buck, "that these jokes are senseless."

the Bosco boys, by virtue of superior strength, wit and intelligence, and he knew that no serious revolt against his

Then the landlord gave him a dig rule was contemplated.

don't grasp my idea. I think we four boys ought to distinguish ourselves by after supper the statesmen from Gladoing something out of the common zer's surrounded him with tin horns run-something we can talk about next year with pride."
"I catch on," said Mart, with more

force than elegance. "Suppose we send somebody up to Wandel, forty the landford himself got tired and threatened to scald them if they did leg, and when he comes, give him the not go away. leg of a chair."

"Very well," said Jim, dryly, "Dr. of something else, Jim said, suddenly: "We are in big luck. Here's our

boys, in whisper of chores.

took it in his hand, a long, lank and to see the trio strike for Fox's hill. ungainly fellow came shambling around the post office corner.

The boys knew him well as a Vermont man named Bascomb, who had been loafing around Bosco for three weeks, and was generally understood to be much keener than he looked.

As he came up Jim held the specimen off at arm's length, as if examining it critically, and when he came within earshot Jim cried:

"It must be a mistake, Tom. It willa't have cropped out there." By this time Baseomb was abreast

of the group, and the boys were watching Jim in surprise wondering what in the world he was up to. Suddenly Jim appeared to see Basonb for the first time.

"Mr. Bascomb," said he, with an affectation of diffidence, "you're a good jud e of copper, aren't you'r

"No very," answered Bascomb, his we and watery eyes shifting mneas . "I can tell it when I see it—that's about all."

"Pshaw!" excluimed Jim in a vexed tone. "Then you can't three any light on this argument. This chunk," he went on rapidly, was picked up on the very top of that hill yonder—the one with the blasted pine at its base. I say it must have been dropped there, and that it came from the Houghton district, and Tom here declares that it ropped out on the hill. But it's no matter so long as you can't tell the difference. Come along, boys."

The boys followed him in mute be-wilderment, and when they got around the corner were amazed to see their leader kink up with laughter.
"What's the joke?" asked Mart, with
a puzzled look. "Does anyone see the

"What is Bascomb doing?" asked me," said Jim Jim, without answering the general Standing with his hands in his

to catch a pockets," answered Anderson, after glimpse of the taking a careful peep. "Is that the "No," said Jim, after indulging in

"But they are funny," said Mart another kink; "the joke will come in



"MR. BASCOME, VOU"RE A GOOD JUDGE OF COPPER

Harper, slyly pinning a strip of yellow about an hour, when you'll see Bascalico to Tommy Bowers' coat-tails. "I doubt it," replied Jim, stoutly. "I can't scare up the least bit of a you see the cunning gleam in his eye smile when Squire Burgess looks up and down the street in response to our 'Hello!' and for the life of me I can't inside of an hour, it will be because he see what there is funny in ringing door-bells or tying dead cats to garden the same way by the biggest idiot in ounce of ore in it, and when they town. For instance, Mart has just the Yankee climbing the hill, pinned a rag on Tom's coat, and doesn't enough, they fairly whooped.

"The deuce there is!" cried Mart, feeling behind him, with a very red

face.
"I dare say," continued Jim, the philosopher, declining to join in the general snicker at Mart's expense. "that there is something hanging or sticking to me at this present moment. but I don't care enough to look for it."

"Oh, ho!" cried Lew Anderson, the fourth of the group of idle boys who they did: When Bascomb came down were stancing this first day of April on from Fox hill at nightfall be looked the main street of Bosco, a small town in the Michigan peninsula, "what is tried to sneak into the hotel through King Jim's idea of a joke, for instance? the back door, but the boys were there Shall we blow up a barn with dynamite, or throw a couple of children in the lake? I would suggest that we set

comb rooting away with pick and shovel on the top of Fox hill. Didn't when I put the chunk under his nose? Well, I did; and if he isn't on the hill can't buy, beg or borrow the tools" The boys saw the joke and roared.

gates. It is simply annoying to the Everybody in Bosco knew that Fox other people, and the mischief of it is hill had been thoroughly prosthan any one of us could be victimized pected, and that there wasn't an ounce of ore in it, and when they saw It was know that there is one on his own such a good joke that they told the old folks, and they enjoyed it, too.

Glazer, the storekeeper, vowed he would set off some fireworks in Bascomb's honor, and four or five choice spirits, who regulated the affairs of the nation by sitting on Glazer's barrels and boxes, and consuming tobacco for nine hours a day, made preparations to give the foolish prospector a calathumpian serenade.

And, what is more to the purpose, woebegone and fagged out, and he the back door, but the boys were there to welcome him.

He took it good-naturedly enough when he found he couldn't escape. The fire to the lake as a starter."

There was a general roar of merriment over this sally, but Jim was not abashed. He was king, indeed, among of course he couldn't do anything but leaning on last night."—N. Y. Herald.

"Pooh!" he said, with a smile. "You waited on the table had something to ssy, and when he rashly ventured out and tin pans and other instruments of torture, until he was forced to turn and fly back to the hotel.

Next day the boys were not surprised to hear that Bascomb had left town Rixby is a violent main, and was a boxer in his younger days. You go. Mart very naturally demurred, and while the others were trying to think too smart; and it was unanimously too. voted that Jim McArthur was a genius as well as a philosopher.

"What's the matter?" queried the see Hascomb again, and consequently they stared as if they had encountered they stared as if they had encountered. Not one of the boys ever expected to "Keep quiet, and you'll see directly, a ghost, when, precisely three weeks Tom, give me that specimen from alterward they saw the lanky gentle-mon walking along the main street, man walking along the main street, Tom passed over a specimen of copper ore almost as large as his fist and in company with two well-dressed fully eighty per cent fine, and, as Jim strangers, and the boys were surprised

Next day two more stranger's came to town, and they went to Fox's hill; and the next day the whole pack went

The following week Bascomb came back with carpenters and builders and a carload of machinery, and the boys began to think they were dreaming.

The statesmen at Glazer's store woke up about this time, and began to neglect the affairs of the nation in watching Bascomb and his men. Jim McArthur had not very long to wait to find out the why and wherefore

of these mysterious movements. Hifather sent for him, and said: "So you are the boy who fooleti Bas comb, are you? I just heard to-day

that you were the one who conceived that great April fool joke. You ought to be proud of its success. "Why?" stammered Jim.

"Because," explained his father, with a grim smile, "you put the fellow on to the biggest vein of copper that has ever been found in this region. It is fifteen inches thick, if it's one!"

"What!" cried Jim. in amazement. "He never said r word-be never told -I thought-"

"Of course, of course," said Jim's ther. "He let you fool boys think you had fooled him, and he just slipped down to Detroit, bought the whole hill for a song, formed a company, and now he can sell out his share for a hundred thousand to-morrow. But he won't; he'll hold on, and he'll be a millionaire in five years."

Then Jim went out, called the boys together in enucus, and they then and there resolved that they had played the most expensive April fool joke on record.—Victor Valentine, in Golden Days.

MR. REYNARD AND MRS. GOOSE.

The Latter Plays an April Fool Joke to

Some Good Purpose. One warm spring morning Mr. Rey and went out to see what he could find for breakfast. He was in hopes he could eatch some young chickens, for he was particularly fond of them, they were so tender: but all the little chick ens were safe in the barnyards, where Mr. Reynard dared not venture, and he grew very hungry.

After awhile he came to the edge of a grassy bank, at the foot of which was a broad lake. There, close by the water, preparing to take a morning swim. Mr. Reynard saw what made his mouth water. It was a plump, handsome goose.

"Good morning Mr. Reynard, as he ran down the bank, thinking to himself: "I'll make a meal of you in no time!"

"Good morning, Mr. Reynard!" responded Mrs. Goose, with her most fascinating smile.

Mrs. Goose had already surmised Mr. Reynard's intentions, and she at once engaged him in conversation. while she tried to think how she could best escape his clutches. Meantime Mr. Reynard half forgot his hunger, his vanity was so pleased at the seeming admiration of Mrs. Goose.

Suidenly Mrs. Goose asked, in a most winningsway:
"Will su do me a favor, Mr. Rey-

"Command me!" he exclaimed, lay-

ing one paw across his heart.
"Well, then," said she, "please run up the bank, and see if my goslings are anywhere about, and tell them to hurry down here to take their swim ming lesson.

Goslings! The thought made Mr. Reynard's eyes dance with delight. Of nourse he would go! If they were as fat as their mother, what a dainty breakfast he would have! So up the bank he scampered, well pleased with his errand. He could take care of Mrs. Goose after he had had a taste of her

young ones. But his search up and down the road was in vain; he scoured the adjoining lots to no purpose, and he hurried back to the lake in a very bad humor indeed. But Mrs. Goose was not where he had left her. She was resting upon the water quite far enough from shore to be out of his grasp, and evidently enjoying his discomfiture.

'I think you must have forgotten that to-day is the first of April," she said, smiling, "and as I understood your intentions perfectly I thought you deserved to be sent on an empty errand 1 may as well tell you," added, "that I have no goslings, and if I had I should certainly not send you to fetch them. Good day, Mr. Reynard!

'You just let me catch you!" screamed

Beynard, angrily.
"Oh no: I do not intend to let you catch mel" replied Mrs. Goose, swim ming away toward the middle of the lake.-Youth's Companion.

-- With June at the Gate. -- She--

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